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10/786,030

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Ahmed E. Hassan

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RIDOUT & MAYBEE

SUITE 2400

ONE QUEEN STREET EAST

TORONTO, ON M5C3B1

CANADA

EXAMINER

ADDY, ANTHONY S

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2681

DATE MAILED: 11/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/786,030	Applicant(s) HASSAN ET AL.	
	Examiner Anthony S. Addy	Art Unit 2681	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-27 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>02/16/2005</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 12 is objected to because of the following informalities: On line 1, "in the resetting" should be recited as "the resetting". Appropriate correction is required.
2. Claim 27 is objected to because of the following informalities: On line 3, the word "an other" should be recited as "another". Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
4. Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

With respect to claim 15, applicant recites the limitation "the electronic device" on line 9 of claim 15, however there is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

For examination purposes, the examiner is considering the limitation to read as "the mobile device."

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

Art Unit: 2681

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1-8 and 11-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by **Fogle et al., U.S. Publication Number 2003/0074590 A1 (hereinafter Fogle)**.

Regarding claim 1, Fogle teaches an electronic device (**see p. 1 [0015] and Fig.1**) comprising: a processor (**see p. 1 [0015] and Fig.1**); an output device connected to the processor for issuing a stimulus to a user of the electronic device (**see p. 2 [0018-0019] and Fig.1**); at least one input device connected to the processor and responsive to user input activity (**see p. 2 [0018-0020] and Fig.1**); and a device lock module associated with the processor for implementing restrictions on user access to the electronic device if user input activity falls below a threshold; and redetermining the threshold if a stimulus is issued by the output device (**see p. 3 [0030-0036], p. 3 [0040-0044], p. 4 [0049-0052], p. 5 [0060] and Fig. 1**).

Regarding claim 2, Fogle teaches all the limitations of claim 1. In addition, Fogle teaches an electronic device, wherein the threshold includes a lack of user input activity within a timed period, the device lock module configured for redetermining the time period if the stimulus is issued by the output device within the timed period (**see p. 3 [0030-0036], p. 3 [0040-0045] and p. 4 [0049-0052]**).

Regarding claim 3, Fogle teaches all the limitations of claim 2. In addition, Fogle teaches an electronic device, wherein the device lock module is configured for setting

Art Unit: 2681

an initial value for the timed period (**see p. 3 [0033-0036]**); monitoring for user input activity within the timed period and if user input activity is not detected within the timed period then implementing the restrictions on user access (**see p. 3 [0030-0036]**); and monitoring for issuance of the stimulus within the timed period and if the stimulus is issued during the timed period, resetting a time remaining in the timed period to a second value less than the initial value (**see p. 3 [0030-0036], p. 3 [0040-0045] and p. 4 [0049-0052]**).

Regarding claim 4, Fogle teaches all the limitations of claim 3. In addition, Fogle teaches an electronic device, wherein if the stimulus is issued during the timed period, the time remaining in the timed period is reset to the second value only when the time remaining in the timed period when the stimulus is issued exceeds the second value (**see p. 3 [0030-0036], p. 3 [0040-0045] and p. 4 [0049-0052]**).

Regarding claim 5, Fogle teaches all the limitations of claim 3. In addition, Fogle teaches an electronic device, wherein the device lock module is configured for tracking user response times to issued stimuli and adjusting the second value based on the tracked user response times (**see p. 3 [0030-0036], p. 3 [0040-0045] and p. 4 [0049-0052]**).

Regarding claim 6, Fogle teaches all the limitations of claim 1. In addition, Fogle teaches an electronic device, wherein the stimulus includes at least one of an aural stimulus and a physical stimulus (**see p. 3 [0032-0033]**).

Regarding claim 7, Fogle teaches all the limitations of claim 1. In addition, Fogle teaches an electronic device, wherein the electronic device is a mobile communications

Art Unit: 2681

device enabled for communications over a wireless network (**see p. 1 [0015] and p. 2 [0021]**), and the processor is configured for causing the output device to issue the stimulus when the electronic device receives a new communication addressed to it over the wireless network (**see p. 2 [0021-0022]**).

Regarding claim 8, Fogle teaches all the limitations of claim 7. In addition, Fogle teaches an electronic device, wherein the new communication is selected from the group consisting of an electronic message and an incoming telephone call (**see p. 2 [0021-0022]**).

Regarding claim 11, Fogle teaches a method for providing security for a mobile communications device (**see p. 1 [0015] and Figures 3A & 3B**), including steps of: monitoring for predetermined user interaction with the mobile communications device (**see p. 3 [0033]**); locking the mobile communications device if the predetermined user interaction is not detected within a predetermined lockout time interval; and resetting the lockout time interval to a shorter value if a user stimulus is issued by the mobile communications device (**see p. 3 [0030-0036], p. 3 [0040-0044], p. 4 [0049-0052] and p. 5 [0060]**).

Regarding claim 12, Fogle teaches all the limitations of claim 11. In addition, Fogle teaches a method, wherein in the resetting step is performed based on if a time remaining in the lockout time interval is greater than the shorter value (**see p. 3 [0030-0036], p. 3 [0040-0045] and p. 4 [0049-0052]**).

Regarding claim 13, Fogle teaches all the limitations of claim 11. In addition, Fogle teaches a method including monitoring for new communications received by the

mobile communications device and issuing the user stimulus in response to receiving a new communication at the mobile communications device (**see p. 3 [0033]**).

Regarding claim 14, Fogle teaches all the limitations of claim 11. In addition, Fogle teaches a method including monitoring a length of time for user interaction to occur after the user stimulus has been issued and adjusting the shorter value based thereon (**see p. 3 [0030-0036], p. 3 [0040-0045] and p. 4 [0049-0052]**).

7. Claims 15-17, 19, 22, 23 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by **Ozeki et al., U.S. Publication Number 2003/0073448 A1 (hereinafter Ozeki)**.

Regarding claim 15, Ozeki teaches a mobile device (**see p. 2 [0025] and Fig. 1**), comprising: a processor (**see p. 2 [0038] and Fig. 3**); at least a first input device connected to the processor for providing input signals thereto (**see p. 2 [0030], p. 2 [0037], p. 5 [0091] and Figures 2 & 3; showing operation keys 4**); and an output device connected to the processor for providing output to a user of the mobile device (**see p. 2 [0029], p. 2 [0037] and Figures 2 & 3; showing a display panel 3**); the processor being configured for determining location information for the mobile device based on input signals received from the first input device and adjusting an operating characteristic of the mobile device based on the determined location information (**see p. 3 [0057-0058], p. 4 [0082] and p. 5 [0091-0095]**).

Regarding claim 16, Ozeki teaches all the limitations of claim 15. In addition, Ozeki teaches a mobile device including a device lock function associated with the

Art Unit: 2681

processor for implementing restrictions on user access to the mobile device if input activity for the mobile device falls below a threshold and subsequently removing the restrictions on user access upon receiving a predetermined user input, the operating characteristic including a security setting of the device lock function (**see p. 3 [0047-0048] and p. 3 [0059-0062], p. 5 [0091-0095] and p. 5 [0100]**).

Regarding claim 17, Ozeki teaches all the limitations of claim 16. In addition, Ozeki teaches a mobile device, wherein the security setting determines the predetermined user input required to subsequently remove the restrictions on user access (**see p. 3 [0047-0048] and p. 3 [0059-0062]**).

Regarding claim 19, Ozeki teaches all the limitations of claim 16. In addition, Ozeki teaches a mobile device, wherein the security setting determines the threshold (**p. 3 [0062]**).

Regarding claim 22, Ozeki teaches all the limitations of claim 16. In addition, Ozeki teaches a mobile device, wherein the first input device includes a GPS receiver (**see p. 2 [0042-0043] and Fig. 3**).

Regarding claim 23, Ozeki teaches all the limitations of claim 16. In addition, Ozeki teaches a mobile device, wherein the first input device includes a wireless communications subsystem connected to the processor for exchanging communications signals with a wireless network including a plurality of base stations, the location information being determined based on identities of the base stations (**see p. 2 [0033-0036, p. 2 [0042-0043] and Figures 2 & 3**).

Regarding claim 25, Ozeki teaches a method for providing security to a mobile electronic device (see p. 1 [0010-0012] and Figures 4, 6 & 7) including the steps of: receiving input signals from an input device of the mobile electronic device (see p. 2 [0037-0040], p. 3 [0049] and p. 5 [0091]); determining if the mobile electronic device is in a secure location based on the input signals (see p. 3 [0050-0051], p. 3 [0057] and p. 5 [0092-0095]); and applying a first security setting to the mobile electronic device if it is in the secure location and applying a second security setting to the mobile electronic device if it is not in the secure location (see p. 3 [0057-0060] and p. 5 [0095]).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 9 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Fogle et al., U.S. Publication Number 2003/0074590 A1 (hereinafter Fogle)** as applied to claims 1 above, and further in view of **Rodriguez et al., U.S. Patent Number 6,651,173 (hereinafter Rodriguez)**.

Regarding claims 9 and 10, Fogle teaches all the limitations of claim 1. Fogle fails to explicitly teach an electronic device, wherein the electronic device includes an event scheduling application associated with the processor for generating event reminders, the processor being configured for causing the output device to issue the

Art Unit: 2681

stimulus when an event reminder is generated and wherein stimulus are issued for at least two different type of events, the thus threshold being redetermined based on the type of event for which the stimulus is issued.

Rodriguez, however, teaches an electronic device including an event scheduling application associated with the processor for generating event reminders, the processor being configured for causing the output device to issue a notification when an event reminder is generated (**see col. 3, lines 13-44 and col. 4, lines 33-50**). Rodriguez further teaches event notifications are issued for different types of events as defined by the user and the system inactivity timeout period may be set based on the type of event for which notification is issued (**see col. 3, lines 33-65 and col. 5, lines 25-42**).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Fogle with Rodriguez to include an event scheduling application associated with the processor for generating event reminders, the processor being configured for causing the output device to issue the stimulus when an event reminder is generated, in order to notify a user of the electronic device of a scheduled event via a pop-up dialog, which can be set to activate a predetermined period prior to the start time of the event as per the teachings of Rodriguez (**see col. 4, lines 33-42**).

10. Claims 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Ozeki et al., U.S. Publication Number 2003/0073448 A1 (hereinafter Ozeki)** as applied to claim 16 above, and further in view of **Landram et al., U.S. Publication Number 2005/0077997 A1 (hereinafter Landram)**.

Regarding claims 20 and 21, Ozeki teaches all the limitations of claims 16 above. Ozeki further teaches an external interface is located on the bottom of the mobile device and is used when communication is to be performed using an external device such as a personal computer (see p. 2 [0031] and Fig. 1). Ozeki fails to explicitly teach a mobile device, wherein the first input device includes an interface for docking the mobile device to a desktop computer, the location information being determined based on whether the mobile device is docked to the desktop computer and wherein the security setting of the device lock function is set to mirror that of the desktop computer when the mobile device is docked to the desktop computer.

Landram, however, teaches a mobile terminal allocation system, wherein a cradle provides a docking interface for a respective mobile terminal to communicate with a host computer through a wireless link or via a network connection through the cradle (see p. 2 [0025] and Fig. 1). Landram further teaches the location information of the mobile terminal is determined based on whether the mobile device is docked to the desktop computer and wherein the security setting of the device lock function is set to mirror that of the desktop computer when the mobile device is docked to the desktop computer (see p. 2 [0028-0030] and p. 4 [0067-0069]).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Ozeki with Landram to include a mobile device, wherein the first input device includes an interface for docking the mobile device to a desktop computer, the location information being determined based on whether the mobile device is docked to the desktop computer and wherein the security setting of the device

Art Unit: 2681

lock function is set to mirror that of the desktop computer when the mobile device is docked to the desktop computer,, in order to securely store mobile devices allocated to different users and based on authentication results, allow a host computer communicating with the mobile devices through a docking interface to automatically select a mobile device for a user as taught by Landram (**see p. 2 [0026]**).

11. Claim 24 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Ozeki et al., U.S. Publication Number 2003/0073448 A1 (hereinafter Ozeki)** as applied to claim 15 above, and further in view of **Huang, U.S. Publication Number 2005/0164720 A1 (hereinafter Huang)**.

Regarding claim 24, Ozeki teaches all the limitations of claims 15 above. Ozeki further teaches the mobile device is enabled for receiving electronic messages (**see p. 5 [0095]**). Ozeki fails to explicitly teach the mobile device includes a message filtering module associated with the processor for filtering electronic messages received by the mobile device, the operating characteristic including filtering criteria for filtering the electronic messages.

Huang, however, teaches a method of filtering messages received on a receiving telephone apparatus, wherein filtering rules are applied to a received message at the telephone apparatus and if the message satisfies at least one of the filtering rules, a filtering process is then executed on the message (**see p. 1 [0007], p. 1 [0014] and Figures 3 & 4**).

It would therefore have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Ozeki with Huang to include a message filtering module associated with the processor for filtering electronic messages received by the mobile device, the operating characteristic including filtering criteria for filtering the electronic messages, in order to automatically filter out unwanted messages according to the filtering rules and prevent the user of the telephone apparatus to manually filter out unwanted messages as taught by Huang (**see p. 1 [0008]**).

12. Claims 18, 26 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Ozeki et al., U.S. Publication Number 2003/0073448 A1 (hereinafter Ozeki)** as applied to claims 17 and 25 above, and further in view of **Rodriguez et al., U.S. Patent Number 6,651,173 (hereinafter Rodriguez)**.

Regarding claims 18, 26 and 27, Ozeki teaches all the limitations of claims 17 and 25. Ozeki fails to explicitly teach a method, wherein the first security setting specifies a first countdown timer value within which the mobile electronic device will be locked if user interaction with the mobile electronic device is not detected, and the second security setting specifies a second, shorter, countdown timer value within which the mobile electronic device will be locked if user interaction with the mobile electronic device is not detected, wherein the first security setting specifies one password required for unlocking the mobile electronic device and the second security setting specifies another password required for unlocking the mobile electronic device.

Rodriguez, however, teaches a security module for an electronic device, wherein during creation of an event entry in a calendar application, the user is prompted to specify security mode in which the system should be placed for the duration of the event, together with a timer for initiating system locking, if applicable, before or after the start of the event (**see col. 3, lines 51-56**). According to Rodriguez, the security mode may set a timed lock with a specified timeout period of inactivity, for instance, the system inactivity timeout period for a particular event, such as a business meeting with a supplier may be set much shorter than the user would employ for normal working conditions (e.g., five minutes versus thirty minutes) (**see col. 3, lines 56-65**). Rodriguez further teaches, since different security modes are possible, the user may also employ different passwords depending on whether the user is scheduled to be using the system or scheduled to be altogether away from the system (**see col. 4, line 65 through col. 5, line 6 and col. 5, lines 31-42**)

It would therefore have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Ozeki with Rodriguez to include a method, wherein the first security setting specifies a first countdown timer value within which the mobile electronic device will be locked if user interaction with the mobile electronic device is not detected, and the second security setting specifies a second, shorter, countdown timer value within which the mobile electronic device will be locked if user interaction with the mobile electronic device is not detected, wherein the first security setting specifies one password required for unlocking the mobile electronic device and the second security setting specifies another password required for unlocking the mobile electronic device,

Art Unit: 2681

in order to provide a security locking mechanism in an electronic device which is augmented by incorporating the user's behavior represented in the user's calendar of activities as per the teachings of Rodriguez (see col. 3, lines 29-33).

Conclusion

13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Little et al., U.S. Publication Number 2004/0117651 A1 discloses system and method of security function activation for a mobile electronic device.

Lee et al., U.S. Publication Number 2005/0007456 A1 discloses system and method for restricting use of camera of a mobile terminal.

Tokkonen, U.S. Publication Number 2004/0085351 A1 discloses method of deactivating device lock state, and electronic device.

Lignoul, U.S. Publication Number 2002/0095222 A1 discloses proximity sensor for screen saver and password delay.

14. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anthony S. Addy whose telephone number is 571-272-7795. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur 8:00am-6:30pm.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph H. Feild can be reached on 571-272-4090. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2681

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Anthony S. Addy
October 21, 2005



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PRIMARY EXAMINER